



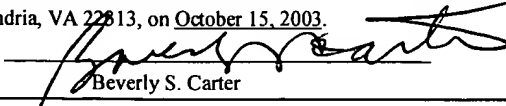
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PATENT
Docket No. 393032024300

HC
(31)
6-23

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Beverly S. Carter

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Shinichi ITO, et al

Serial No.: 09/823,704

Filing Date: March 30, 2001

For: INFORMATION RETRIEVAL SYSTEM
AND INFORMATION RETRIEVAL
METHOD USING NETWORK

Examiner: Etienne P. Leroux

Group Art Unit: 2171

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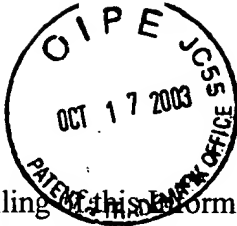
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the documents are also submitted herewith, along with an office action from the corresponding Japanese patent application. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

I hereby certify that each item of information was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the



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filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

This Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing 393032024300. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: October 15, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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